

## German Delegates Accept Allies' Terms Regarding Their Mercantile Fleet

Monthly Ration of 370,000 Tons of Foodstuffs Fixed By Allied Commission—Smaller Than Huns Had Requested—Send Supplies Until August.

Brussels, Friday, March 14—The German delegates to the conference here regarding the taking over by the Allies of the German mercantile fleet and the provisioning of Germany to-day definitely accepted the conditions imposed by the Allies.

Brussels, Thursday, March 13—A monthly ration for Germany of 370,000 tons of foodstuffs was fixed today by the Allied commission which is in this city conferring with a German delegation as to the turning over of German merchant shipping and German-owned securities in payment for food shipments.

The German observed that this ration was smaller than they had requested, and were pessimistic as to the arrangement of satisfactory financial terms.

After Vice Admiral Roslyn Wemyss of Great Britain, chairman of the Allied delegation, had presented the conditions decided upon by the Entente, the Germans asked to be allowed to draw for compensation. They then formed three sub-committees to deal with questions of finance, food supply and mercantile marine. This evening the plenipotentiary session was held. Vice Admiral Wemyss saying at its close that satisfactory progress was being made.

The evening the Germans asked to be given the use of a telegraph line to Weimar.

Germany expects that the Allies will provide food supplies until Aug. 15, which is the earliest possible date that four from this year's harvest can be counted upon. Under Secretary of State von Brauns today before leaving for Brussels to participate in negotiations with an Allied commission relative to food shipments and the turning over of German shipping for the use of the Entente nations.

During the war there has been a system of paying premiums for early threshing, but this according to Herr von Brauns, results in much grain being cut before it is ripe and being threshed in a damp condition. In his opinion the system throws the normal course of agriculture "out of gear" because other harvest operations are interrupted to make grain for the threshers. For this reason, he said, the Allies should agree to continue sending food supplies until September.

Herr von Brauns said Germany would ask for 1,400,000 tons of grain and a monthly importation of 100,000 tons of pork and fats, in addition to condensed milk, rice, oatmeal, and other commodities required particularly for invalids, infants and hospitals. He estimated the cost of these shipments at five billion marks.

It is a matter of great importance, he said, that the government arrive at the earliest possible moment and that the total amount to be provided be known, so that the government could adjust rations until the next harvest.

"Only under these conditions is it possible to combat Bolshevism and bring the German people back to conditions of life and political and industrial sobriety," he declared.

## "I'M TOO KIND" STATES MAYO

Much Married New Haven Manufacturer Explains His Troubles.

New York, March 15—"I never willingly wronged any one in my life," said Virginia Mayo of New Haven yesterday in Jefferson Market Court, as he waited for the resumption of the hearing on the charge of bigamy made against him by William L. Meyer Mayo.

"The trouble has been that I have been too kind," he continued. "I did a lot for Wilhelmina, educating her, and in various ways. Look at her now and she is a beautiful blond woman in a sealskin coat and modish hat. I gave her that coat. She has admitted on the witness stand that she has \$30,000 that I gave her."

Mrs. Meyer Mayo would make no statement except:

"I am bringing this charge as a kind of public duty because Mayo has done so much wrong, he has wrecked so many homes. It ought not to be allowed."

The first hearing of the charge was March 5, before Magistrate Groehl. Yesterday's hearing before the same Magistrate was to introduce testimony from out of town with news concerning Mayo's marriage. Mr. Plummer Wood, alleged to have been performed in Birmingham in 1910. The witnesses were Harry Eastman of the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the State Department of Health, Albany; Benjamin Phillips Jr., who served the subpoena in the wife's divorce suit in 1915; and Thomas Burke, an attorney of Scranton, Pa.

HUNDREDS SEE SHIP LAUNCHED

Stonington, Conn., March 15—Steamer Altura, built by the Stonington Ship Construction Co. for the United States Shipping Lines, was launched on today's morning tide in the presence of many hundreds of townspeople. The craft took its plunge without a hitch.

Mrs. Moser, wife of H. M. Moser, a government auditor, was sponsor for the Altura and broke a bottle of champagne on the stem as it slipped on the ways.

A sister ship, the Ashland, will be ready for the water in two months, and the Lansing, being built for the Italian government will go overboard in about three weeks.

The Altura is one of a very few vessels built of native oak, for the shipping board. It is 292 feet long, 50 feet in extreme beam and will draw 25 feet of water. The hull is very heavy. The engines will be installed at Providence to which port the vessel will be towed.

## MAN WAS 87 AND BRIDE 18

Wealthy Brooklynite Seeks Marital Freedom From Former Manicure.

New York, March 15—With an ear trumpet clamped to his head, and slightly enfeebled in his gait, but immaculately dressed, mentally keen and otherwise seemingly fit, 87-year-old James Harvey Hart, a wealthy retired jeweler, testified yesterday before Supreme Court Justice Benedict of Brooklyn in his suit to annul his marriage to Mrs. Kate Hart, 18-year-old manicure girl, which took place May 5 of last year.

Mrs. Hart, a pretty blonde, wearing a handsome fur coat and her husband's hat, appeared in court and opposed the suit. Hart testified that his age was sufficient to annul the marriage.

Edmund L. Mooney, attorney for Mrs. Hart, stated in the beginning that large property rights are indirectly involved, as Hart is possessed of real estate worth \$300,000, and his wife has a dower right to one-third of it.

Hart took the stand after the motion to dismiss his suit had been denied and testified that, following the marriage, he and his bride went on a wedding trip to Atlantic City and Lakewood and returned about a fortnight later to No. 1 South Elliott Place, Brooklyn, where he had lived with four daughters of his prior marriage, his first wife having died 11 years ago.

His bride and his wife went next to a house at No. 337 Monroe street, Brooklyn, which he owned, and later, as he expressed it, he "cleared out." Most of the food he got there was "restaurant food," he explained, so he went back to his daughters, who last went with him to live at East Orange, N. J.

He said he knew his wife about three weeks before their marriage, having met her in a barber shop in Broadway, Brooklyn, where she was a manicure.

"Did you love your wife when you married her?" Mooney asked.

"I thought I did," Hart replied.

"Did you ever kiss her?" the lawyer questioned.

"Yes, as often as she kissed me," Hart said.

## PRICES ARE HIGH THROUGH FRANCE

Paris, March 15—(Correspondence of The Associated Press)—Americans are cheerfully paying the exorbitant prices charged them for necessities in France, while the natives pay and groan, declared an Associated Press correspondent who has been making an investigation of French high cost of living.

Three American newspapermen recently paid \$2 for a taxi-cab ride that the taximeter showed should cost about 75 cents. A meal without wine for the three hungry scribbles cost \$20.

The following figures show the difference between the prices now prevailing in France and those of the ante-war days.

Butter \$2 a pound against 30 cents before war, eggs \$2 a dozen versus twenty-two cents and vegetables ranging from fourteen to fifty cents a pound could be obtained for four, five and six cents previous to the war. Cheese has advanced from forty cents to ninety, coffee from forty cents to \$1.90. Meat has advanced three hundred per cent, chickens, which were sixty cents are now \$2 and very slim birds at that.

The cheapest business suit cannot be obtained under \$50 to which must be added \$10 as a luxury tax. Silk stockings sold for \$3 a pair and one pair of shoes cost \$10. As much as possible in order not to walk through them on first day, especially when the fourteen dollar pair of shoes which one is wearing absorb dampness like a four dollar sponge. Washing comes high with soap at thirty cents a cake, and a bath is a luxury.

Monsieur Jusserand, the French Ambassador in Washington has recently returned after a long absence. The collars for which he used to pay thirteen francs the dozen now are thirteen francs fifty in the same great shop at which he has been trading two years ago and his sixteen franc hat has mounted to forty.

Frying a \$2 steak for two in a \$4 saucepan is a privilege enjoyed only by the rich and a glass of beer at twenty cents plus a five cent tip to the waiter tastes very bitter to a thirsty wayfarer.

The laboring class at one time was eating much rice. But lately that commodity reached figures out of proportion to the salaries of the working man.

A few days ago Food Minister Boret caused the arrest of speculators who were offering rice for sale at forty cents per pound. It turned out that the rice has been obtained from the food ministry at the legal price of sixteen cents a pound. But it had a circuitous journey before reaching the consumer passing through six alleged brokers who in turn levied a percentage on the rice. They were each fined two hundred francs and costs.

DISCUSS LOAN BILL

Brussels, Wednesday, March 12—The Belgian Senate today discussed the bill authorizing a loan of 3,500,000 francs. The premier replying to several deputes who were hostile to the bill, for Belgium to reproach the Allies.

"When we have established the amount of our damages," he said, "there is every reason to believe the figure will be accepted. If the total amount of indemnities must be reduced, the reduction will not be applied to Belgium."

SALE OF W. S. STAMPS.

Washington, March 15—War Savings Stamps were sold in January at the rate of 45 cents for every person in the United States with a total sale of \$48,890,000, according to reports from headquarters today. Vermont led in per capita sales, with \$1.20 or a total of \$488,000. New York state, outside of New York city, was lowest, with only 15 cents per capita.

## BRITISH STRIVE FOR COMPLETION OF PEACE TREATY

Finishing of Preliminary Pact First Consideration of Peace Conference.

READY TO SIGN IN THREE WEEKS

Separate Treaties With Central Powers After Disposing of Germany.

Paris, Friday, March 14—Speedy completion of the preliminary peace treaty is understood to be the main endeavor of Premier Lloyd George when the Peace Conference resumes full swing again. The British Premier is said to be firm in the conviction that the finishing and signing of a preliminary pact should be the first consideration of the conference.

While not so optimistic as some who had been looking for completion of the preliminary treaty by March 20, British conference circles incline to the belief that the document will be ready for signature within about three weeks.

The British program at the Peace Conference is understood to contemplate the signing of separate preliminary treaties with the Central Allies as soon as possible after Germany is disposed of. Next would come the consideration of any amendments to the present constitution of the League of Nations and then the League would be whipped into permanent shape. The final Peace treaty would follow and would include the League of Nations plan.

The leading thought among the British now seems to be to sign the preliminary Peace terms of all unnecessary incumbrance and secure the signature of that document so that the world can begin to settle back to normal.

## TEST WAR-TIME PROHIBITION ACT

Stockholders' Suit Filed in Federal Court Against Brewers.

New York, March 15—Preliminary action toward testing the constitutionality of the war-time prohibition act was taken in the filing here today of a stockholders' suit in the Federal court against the James E. Eversett & Co., brewers. The complainant, Joseph E. Eversett, asked the court for an order restraining the defendant from suspending its manufacturing activities on May 1, next, and its sale July 1, as required by the Federal statute.

The complaint alleges that the emergency prohibition clause of the agricultural bill passed November 21, 1918, is unconstitutional as a measure intended to safeguard the national security and defense, inasmuch as the armistice had been signed, hostilities ceased and orders had been given preliminary to reduction of the military forces before that date.

## GERMANS TO BAR RUSSIAN RUBLE

Bavarian Social Council De-sires Complete Social-ization.

Berlin, Tuesday, March 11—The ministry of finance, it is understood, will recommend to the German National Assembly the immediate enactment of a law barring the Russian ruble from circulation in Germany and prohibiting any traffic in it.

The influx of Russian currency, which began with the advent of Adolf Joffe, the Bolshevik ambassador to Germany, in Berlin last summer, has been a constant source of annoyance in circles keenly alive to the Bolshevik menace. While the banks were for a time acquiescent, they are now more and more indignant at the presence of the ruble, their suspicions were finally aroused when the Spartacists suddenly displayed unexpected prosperity which enabled them to establish a daily newspaper and carry on a political campaign with ramifications in all sections of Germany.

Meanwhile, rubles have continued to flow in, being shipped in potato sacks and soap boxes and such quantities as did not reach independent Socialist leaders were deposited with Dr. Karl Liebknecht and his communist followers. Even long after the signing of the armistice, Bolshevik agents were ushered out of Germany. Russian paper money continued to reach Berlin across the frontier. It was spent for ammunition provided for the Spartacists, the Red Guards and other agencies in propagating Bolshevism in Berlin. In other parts of Germany the Spartacists were able to carry on their campaign by means of unlimited Russian funds.

TALK OF AUSTRIA'S NATURALIZATION

Paris, Friday, March 14—Unofficial discussion of the possible naturalization of Austria is continuing here. The plan apparently has strong support among the Austrian conservative forces, especially the church and the Christian socialists.

The movement for the naturalization of the Austrian Tyrol is more definite than that for the remainder of Austria, because of the protection such naturalization would afford Italy. It is also suggested that the Austrian emperor, Karl, be annexed to Switzerland.

The Swiss are uneasy over the possibility of a union between Germany and Austria and unofficially have advised the peace delegates of the Swiss view that the virtual envelopment of Switzerland by the German under such a plan would threaten Switzerland's future.

General Pershing dined with General Dickman in Coblenz tonight.

## BOAT OWNERS WIRE BAKER

Want to Know If Government is to Commandeer Equipment.

New York, March 15—Reports that the government contemplated commandeering boats and equipment, as a result of the strike of the harbor workers here, prompted today the sending of identical telegrams to Secretary of War Baker and Secretary of the Navy Daniels by the Boat Owners' Association asking them to deny the likelihood of such procedure. The boatowners declare that if such action is contemplated they will be disposed to ascertain what rights they really possess.

The telegrams recite that the association "is prepared to furnish whatever equipment may be required for the movement of naval vessels or stores or other lawful governmental purposes," but that it has been informed that it is the intention of the government to "commandeer the equipment of our members for the purpose of compelling the private boat owners in this port to adopt an arbitrary and confiscatory wage scale and to put into effect impracticable working conditions for their employees."

In an effort to break the strike of the harbor boat workers which has crippled the port of New York for some time, officials of the Boat Owners' Association today planned to place boats in operation with strikebreakers, under strong guard. A recruiting office also has been opened for non-union workers and it was said that 200 discharged sailors and sailors' wives had been hired. Private detectives and 200 special guards have been engaged to guard boats and other property of the boat owners.

## GIVES \$100,000 TO CATHEDRAL

Will of Former Head of Singer Company Filed for Probate Today.

New York, March 15—An Easter offering of \$100,000 to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine here is provided in the will, probated today at Riverhead, of Commodore Frederick G. Bourne, former head of the Singer Sewing Machine company, who died last week at his Long Island home.

Many bequests of \$10,000 or less were made to various institutions, including \$10,000 cash and 2,500 shares of a real estate company to Pomfret school, Pomfret, Conn.

Clara Bourne Whitman, a sister of Groton, Conn., receives \$25,000, and May Miller Goes, a niece of Waterbury, Conn., and Grace Grueby, Roxbury, Mass., each \$10,000. The will left \$10,000 to each of the testator's eight grandchildren and placed his entire interest in the Singer company in the hands of his executors, to be divided among his living children, or their issue, if dead, in equal shares. The income during the life of the principal will go to their descendants.

Commodore Bourne was rated as a multimillionaire.

## ACUTE UNREST IN WESTPHALIA

Bavarian Social Council De-sires Complete Social-ization.

London, March 15—"Acute unrest prevails in the whole Westphalian industrial region and it will probably be necessary to enlarge the British bridgehead in that direction," says a despatch to the Mail from its correspondent with the British army.

The German province of Westphalia is one of the most important industrial districts of Europe. It has one of the richest coal fields in the world, and the iron industry there has been developed on a vast scale.

Bielefeld, Friday, March 14—The Bavarian Central Council has issued a statement declaring its desire for complete socialization, according to advice to Munich. A Socialist central economic office will be created. It is said, the control of which will include workmen, intellectuals and peasants. As the Saxons chamber has passed a resolution asking for the socialization of Saxony, the Bavarian central council has decided to get into communication with the Saxon government and propose that experts on social questions be sent to Plauen, Saxony, for a conference.

GRANT ALIENS PAROLES

Washington, March 15—Paroles were granted by Secretary of Labor Wilson today to 12 aliens of the group of 84 sent to New York from the West recently under orders of deportation. In 19 cases the deportation order was affirmed. In the remaining 23 cases no applications for reopening of hearings were pending.

POLES REPULSE GERMANS.

Warsaw, Thursday, March 13—Polish troops with the assistance of local militia, have repulsed German volunteer forces which attacked the oil field in the region of Dombrowka, Silesia. The funeral of the victims of the fight was made into an imposing manifestation. In upper Silesia workmen went on strike as a protest.

HARTFORD WANTS DEBATE

Hartford, Conn., March 15—The Hartford chamber of commerce today, through its secretary, William L. Mead, wired Henry A. Wise Wood that Hartford would like to secure the date for the debate between former President William H. Taft and Leslie M. Shaw, former secretary of the treasury, on the proposed constitution of the League of Nations. Mr. Shaw has authorized Mr. Wood to challenge Mr. Taft to such a debate.

## Wilson Cables League Of Nations Will Be Part Of Peace Treaty

President Sends Word to Tumulty That Plenary Council Has Decided In This Manner—Has Conference With Lloyd George.

New York, March 15—Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary of President Wilson, announced here today that he had received a cablegram from the President stating "that the plenary council has positively decided that the League of Nations is to be part of the Peace treaty."

This cablegram was sent in response to one sent by Mr. Tumulty inquiring whether there was any truth in certain newspaper stories that the League was not to be incorporated in the Peace treaty.

Paris, Friday, March 14—President Wilson lost no time in plunging into the problems of the Peace Conference on his arrival here today.

His conference with Premier Lloyd George at the new presidential residence in the Place des Etats-Unis, which began directly after the President reached his dwelling, lasted an hour, while after luncheon the President went to Colonel E. M. House's quarters and for two hours and a half was in conference with Premier Clemenceau and Lloyd George. Colonel House, Andre Tardieu and Louis Loucheur, the French minister of reconstruction, this conference brought together all the main directing forces of the conference with the exception of Premier Orlando of Italy.

When the discussion was over the President left for the Palace of Elisee to call on President Poincare. One of the first questions to be considered by the council of ten, with President Wilson participating in the discussion, will be the boundary between Poland and Germany. The Polish boundary commission, as well as the general territorial commission, has virtually agreed unanimously on this boundary.

While no official announcement has been made, it is known that Dantzig is included in Poland and that the commissions have agreed upon a boundary which would give Poland strategic points which would make her an effective barrier between Bolshevism and western Europe.

## Pershing Views American Troops In Combat Form On East Bank Of Rhine

Inspects Second Division and Presented More Than 80 Decorations—Soldiers Eager to Get Home But Willing to Serve As Long As Necessary.

Coblenz, Friday, March 14—(By the Associated Press)—General John J. Pershing, who is inspecting the fighting divisions of the American army of occupation, had his first sight this morning of American troops in combat formation on German soil. On a six-hundred acre plateau on the east bank of the Rhine, overlooking Coblenz and the winding river, he inspected the Second Division and presented more than eighty decorations. He later reviewed the division, which passed before him in massed formation, the marching time of the 24,000 men being about twenty minutes.

Mounted on a dappled gray cavalry horse which was presented by British General John L. Hines, commander of the Third Army Corps by the British mission, General Pershing inspected the supply trains, ammunition units and motorized artillery and then passed on to the infantry.

The commander-in-chief in this part of the program, walked along the lines of soldiers, devoting more than an hour to the work. He questioned company commanders as to their quarters and in reference to conditions generally. He talked to scores of doughboys who were wound stripes, inquiring if they had fully recovered from the program, where they wanted to go home. Without exception they were eager to return to America as soon as possible for family and business reasons, but all were perfectly willing, they said, to serve as long as it was necessary for the United States to keep an army in Europe.

At the head of the line of those receiving decorations and for the moment outranking two generals, was Sergeant Louis Van Israel of Newark, N. J., whose mother is living in Holland. He was given the Congressional Medal of Honor. During the battle of the Argonne, he crossed the Meuse, fell into a German trap, escaped and again crossed the river with valuable information as to the enemy's forces.

Major General John A. Lejeune, commander of the French Legion of given the Distinguished Service Medal and received the Legion of Honor, commander of the French Legion of Honor, Brigadier General W. C. Neville, commander of the Marine brigade at Belleau Wood, was decorated with the Distinguished Service Medal. Seventy-eight soldiers received Distinguished Service Crosses.

As a surprise Gen. Pershing brought with him a Congressional Medal of Honor for Private John J. Kelly of Chicago, Sixth Marines, as a reward for attacking a machine gun nest on Blaine Mont Ridge, in the Champagne. Kelly, however, was on outpost duty and was unable to be present.

The platoon where the review took place was used for years by the Eighth German Army Corps for the same purpose.

This afternoon, General Pershing inspected and reviewed the first division, which he helped to organize in Washington for service in France. The review took place at Montabaur, the headquarters of the First Division, and, in addition to visiting the troops, the commander-in-chief presented a number of decorations, among them being a Distinguished Service Medal for Brigadier General J. D. McLaughlin, the commander of the division.

After the review, the commissioned and non-commissioned officers gathered in the center field and heard General Pershing tell of the part they took in the formation of the division and recount some of the fine performances of its men during the war. He reminded the men that when they returned home they would receive special attention for their gallantry in France and expressed the desire that they should "uphold their fine, clean records as soldiers when they become civilians." He spoke of the entry of America into the war and the effort exerted in securing the peace which is now being dictated by the Allies.

NO FOUNDATION FOR RUMOR

Guayaquil, Ecuador, March 15—It was officially announced today that the report that Ecuador had asked President Wilson to act as arbitrator in her boundary dispute with Peru was entirely without foundation. It is explained that such a step might be considered as seriously compromising the government's position with the Ecuadorian congress before it had had a chance to pass upon the League of Nations project.

A Paris despatch on March 10 reported that the foreign minister of Ecuador had requested President Wilson to arbitrate the Peruvian-Ecuadorian boundary dispute. The expectation in Paris, however, it was said, was that President Wilson would prefer to submit the question to the League of Nations.

BORLAND'S BODY STARTS HOME

Coblenz, Friday, March 14—(By the Associated Press)—The body of Representative W. P. Borland, of Missouri, who died several weeks ago while visiting the area occupied by American troops, left here today for Rotterdam on board the river steamer Prussen, which was requisitioned some time ago for the use of General Dickman. Two American officers accompanied the body.

HOLLANDIA BRINGS 1,025 TROOPS

New York, March 15—The steamer Hollandia arrived here today from Brest with 1,025 troops. Units included the 103rd Field Battalion, Signal Corps, complete; Mobile Hospital No. 101, and two casual companies. There were 150 nurses, 19 civilians and 24 casual officers of various branches of the service.